

Chicago, March 7th 1835

Dear Sir:

We are beaten. Boone is Mayor
by about 400 maj. & the R. N.'s have 10 aldermen
to our 8. Milliken got no votes but those of the
Democratic party, which amounts to very 3000!!
This is proper, indeed, & is entirely the result of
having a paper here of the right kind.

I write this in hopes of its reaching you before
you leave Washington. Owen Mc Carthy who
the best man of the Irish wing of our party in
this city will be turned out of office immediately if
you have not had ~~an~~ Felkins successor, ap-
pointed, I recommend ^{destituting} him for the place, his
appointment will ~~knock~~ all opposition with-
out exception to Snowhoads removal. I do not
advise Snowhoads removal, but if it is to be done
I would not raise a straw to prevent it. No man
can follow it but much good. Ask Cook if he
will think Owen Mc Carthy who is a sober reliable
decant man, would make a good officer, & I think
his appointment the very best that could be made.

In great haste. I have not heard for some
a week up to this date upon financial matters.

and yours

J. W. Jackson

Higham att
W. Cleary apt
& Election

March
1855

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Monton March 14 1855.

Dr Sir,

Sometime ago I was informed by Col. Woodruff that he had had an interview with you in Washington relative to assisting me to start a genuine Democratic paper in New Jersey, and that he had left with you my letter to him on the subject. Since that time I have had an offer from Mr. Isaac Cook of Chicago to become assistant editor of the Chicago Times for at least six months with the prospect of ultimately taking the editorial control of that paper at a salary of about \$2,000 per an. It is therefore my intent at this time to say to you that I hope that you are willing to assist me in my Chicago enterprise, and that you will not blame me for saying in reference to New Jersey, "Ephraim is joined to his idols, let him alone".

Illinois has a large sprinkling of
jurymen already and I think that
that region would suit me and that
I would suit the region. Besides,
in the course of time, I may be gratified
by being somewhat essential to your
interests. — I have no written agree-
ment with Mr. Cook, but I have understood
him to be a reliable man, and I
have consequently agreed to start
for Chicago the first week in May
to try it for six months at \$100 per
month. — I wish you would write
to me and give me your advice
in the premises. When I was in Washing-
ton I called two or three times at the
Senate Chamber to see you but each
time my card was returned "non est".
I regret that I had not the advan-
tage of a personal interview, but I
trust that you will do me the honor
to send me an early reply to this frank
communication. I reside in Newark,
but I am engaged at present in collaboring
with the Legislature at this place.

Yours very truly
Morris R. Hamilton

Mrs. S. D. Douglass.
N. B. Smith

Hamilton
letter abt Edin
the Chicago Times
Newton N.J.

March 14th
1837

Winchester Ill^s March 21th 1855

To "The Senate and House of Reps^s"

In Congress assembled, your petitioner wishes to inform the Senate and House of Representatives, that during the last Indian troubles, known as the Black ^{War} ~~War~~ on the frontiers of Illinois, that the Governor of Ill. Orca mounted Volunteers to be raised for the protection of the frontiers the requisite number being raised called forth, to Beardstown the place of rendezvous there to await further orders — orders being given to march on for action, Companies were being all properly organized, Companies were marching to Order on Grade and being 4 days crossing the Ill^s River reaching Capt. Tolson's Barringtons Company of Morgan County, orders given for parade the Company obeying & orders and paraded to march to the Commodore's house to draw their for each respective mess his rations, they were then informed by William Thomas then Quartermaster of Co. Campaign, that there was not any provision or rations for them to draw, that he had to cut off those Companies that had crossed the river with half rations, Co. Barringtons ^{company} with some other Companies was return home on furlow with orders to stand as sentinel for 15 days

Re. Companies returned home and completed
with Orders of our Filicers inform both
House of Congress, it was not their fault they
did not serve that tour of duty as was ordered
By the Governor they was mustered into service
step off not all necessary Camp needs for the camp
in was at all necessary & expense for the out
fit & so far as expense is concern it cost them
As much as those that went the whole trip
those companies that was mustered out of service
have received their daily wages long since and
now is receiving a bounty of 160 Acres of land when
those companies that was on furlow does not re-
ceive any thing. Now the question is whether those
Companies under furlow under those Circumstances
would be entitled to pay or not, should there
not have been any returns made of such companies
to the General Government. The above petition
can be refered to the Quarter ^{master} (some) William
Thomas of Jackson Ill^o who can give General
Satisfaction to both House of Congress so far
as this petition is concern a new year petition
Regarding the Sympathies of both House of
Congress of being Republican in all of its acts
Do earnestly pray both honorable bodies what
they are dividing off those vast Public Domain
to call the Valley of the Mississippi

Why these few Companies which was under
Furlow cannot be allow a compensation, are we
not all, Heirs of the same Republic if so
why not receive a portion of those Gifts which
is so freely bestow upon the soldier who
risk his life his all its support so noble
Republic as this which he so proudly lost of
Yours Respectfully
Wm. G. Douglas
William G. Gange

1
Hon, J. A. Douglas
Washington City
D. C.

Mr. Douglas
Purchaser of
the amount of
being collected
in some notes
of the
Office of
the
Secretary

Custom House Chicago
May 28 1855

Sir
Enclosed herewith please receive
four Drafts on the Republican Bank No. three
for \$500⁰⁰ each and one for \$521⁵⁰. Also a
Cert of Stock for fifty Shares of 100⁰⁰ each
in the Bank of Peru and also Col Diversy
receipt for \$500⁰⁰ paid by you to the German
National Democrat News paper Also a receipt
for 200⁰⁰ placed to your credit in the Exchange
Bank and which balance the Draft you gave
me for \$500⁰⁰ Col Diversy states that
the type was already agreed for to start the
weekly paper and had to be paid for by
the 1st of next month I therefore paid him
the amt

Hoping your health is fast
improving

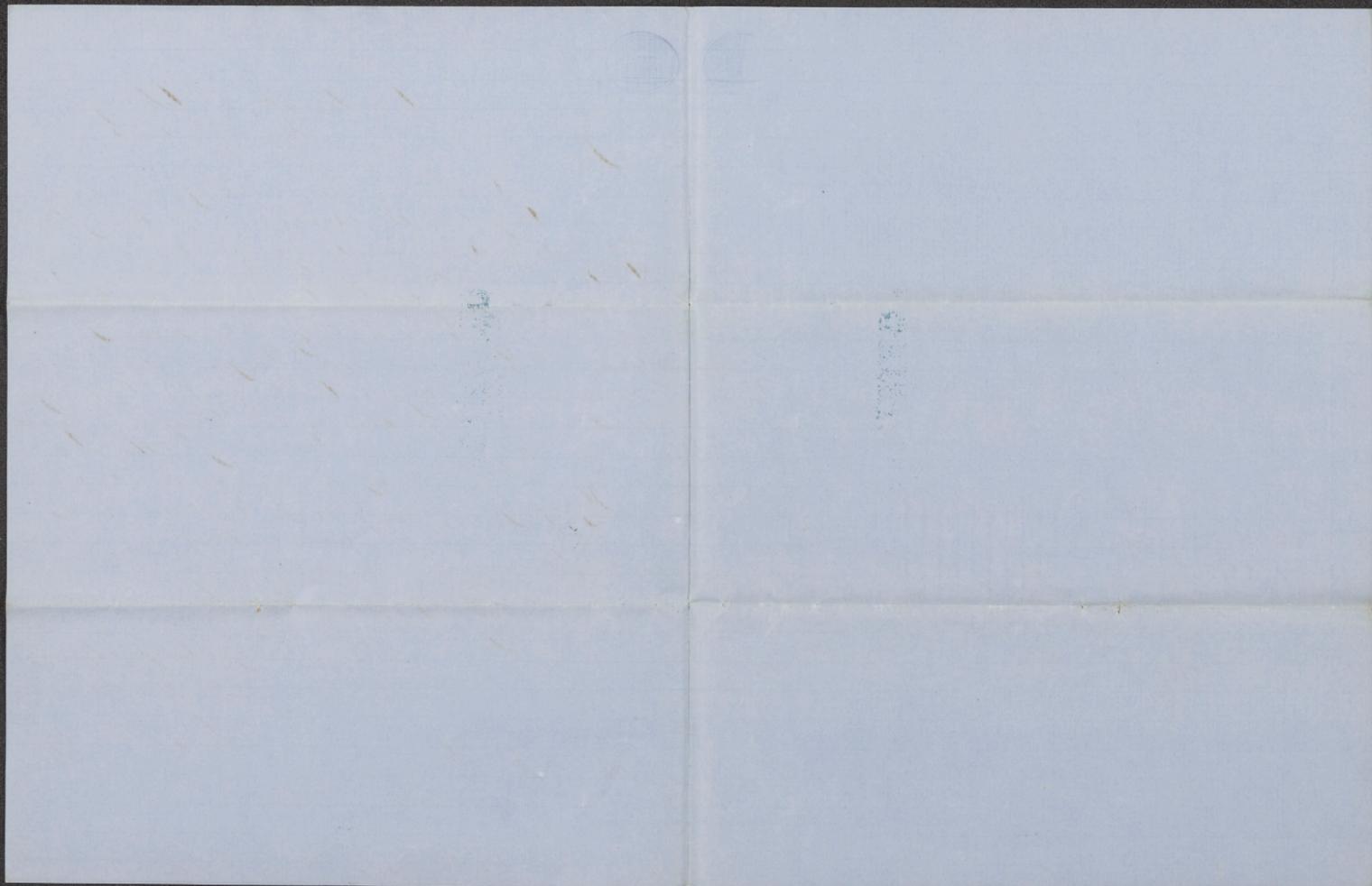
I am very Respectfully
yours truly

Thos. Conley

Hon S A Douglas
Care Wabte

May

P.S. I took the liberty of sending you small drafts
thinking you might want them in that way





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

325
March 28. 53

Dear Sir,

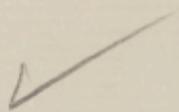
I have been under the necessity of assigning my claim against you for \$5000. which I hoped to have settled with you myself. The holder of the claim has however consented to leaving the matter with me for the present to adjust with you learning that you will soon be in this City on your way to the West.

I beg that you will when you are here give me notice that I may call and see you. or I shall be much pleased to have you stop in to our old office 29 Wall Street. where I shall be most happy to see you as an old friend. Whilst I am sinned in my fortune I retain all my former friendships and let me assure you I have lost none of my admiration of yourself and fully approve of and stand firm by the principles which have actuated you ever. Believe me very truly

Hon. S. A. Douglas
Washington.

Yours &c. Julius Hallerworth

Wadsworths
Little N. York



Peru April 2nd 1835

Dear S A Douglas

Dear Sir

I wrote you at Washington some ten days since enclosing certificate of Bank Stock in the Bank of Peru and had heard nothing from it since if you have not rec^d it - it has taken the course a number of other letters I have written you this winter if it has come to hand please inform me of the fact at your earliest convenience, I must before closing this return you my sincere thanks for your kind efforts in my behalf and assure you that but an opportunity has to ~~be~~ offer its self for me to return it -

Your sincere friend
H. W. Crenshaw

W. J. Creighton
Permy

Tolland Conn. April 9. 1835

Sir,

Josiah G. Beckwith is very anxious to obtain an appointment of Cadet at West Point, and has failed in consequence of political considerations to obtain it from this State. He now learns that there is a vacancy from Illinois that may be obtained for him. I know Mr. Beckwith personally, and am satisfied that we have not in Connecticut a young man of finer promise. If he could be successful in his application I am satisfied the County will be well served, and a worthy young man encouraged. Mr. Beckwith has very many relations and friends, all of whom take a deep interest in

his welfare, and an independent working
man of the national democratic party.

If you con consistently with your
views of propriety and Mr. Bucknill's
in his appreciation of you, will add
another to the favor, for which
I am already your debtor, and
my much grateful, a large number
of political friends in this State.

I have the honor to remain
very truly yours &c
Lionel Walcott

Hon. S. C. Douglass

Washington

et c.

I fully concur in the above
Am. D. L. L. L.

Philippus Carr
April 9th/57

All Mr Walcott has said of Mr Beck-
with is strictly true, and I can but
hope the young gentlemen may have
an opportunity of doing himself and the
State of Illinois credit, as a cadet
at West Point

Wm Beckwith

Alfred T. Keith

Near Judge Douglass

Loren P. Maldo
Tolland
Ct.

[Faint, illegible handwriting, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

Middleport Groves
 Co Illinois April
 27 1858

Howd At Douglass

Sir

Enclosed is a
 communication in relation
 to the swamp lands along
 the Illinois Central
 which Mr Wilson the
 Commissioner has lately
 decided do ~~not~~ belong
 to the State - We should
 be happy to avail ourselves
 of your opinion and views
 upon the subject

Very Respectfully -

John Chamberlain

Mr Douglass

How I set Song Wp

Cherish

John Stephen A. Douglas,

Apr. 27, 1855

The undersigned Members of the County Court of Sangamon County, Illinois and Grand Jurors of the present April Term (1855) of the Sangamon Circuit Court and Citizens of Sangamon County, respectfully ask your opinion upon the late decision of Mr. Wilson, Commissioner &c. - which decision is adverse to the State's holding the Swamp Lands, under the Swamp Land Act, within six Miles of the Illinois Central Rail Road!

This decision is in opposition to our interests as a County, and as we think, to our rights also. It takes from us some sixty thousand Acres of Swamp Lands which have been surveyed at a great expense to the State, and approved to the County of Sangamon by Mr. Laughborough, Deputy Surveyor General at St. Louis, Mo. - and the surveys thereof have been forwarded to Washington.

We beg leave, Sir, to ask your opinion as to the correctness of the above decision, and request that you suggest the proper way for us to test its validity -

Very Respectfully, &c.

Middletown, Sangamon Co. Ill. 3
Apr. 27, 1855

John Chamberlain
Thos M. Laughman
S. Hayes
Grand Jurors

County Judges

Micajah Stanley
E. Danner

A. W. Soble
James Bower
William Symon
James Coyner
Isaac M. Caldwell
Securus Hoyt
Benjamin Furey
Peter Brownfetter
J. Watkins
Benjamin King
H. H. Young
J. B. Purley
A. Lockwood
Element Thomas
W. M. Denore
Luis Searns
A. H. Beldner
Daniel Wright
Geo. W. Mackin
J. E. Harris
C. Geesey

Grand Jurors

Citizens

Daniel Symon
Wm B. White
David Creps
Saml. W. Montgomery
Leol B. Brandenburg
Altaus Ball
Ethan Doolittle
Jacob Frazier
Humphrey Hutchins
David Gardner

Citizens

Bethuel S. Williams on
Wm J. Hoady
Wm. W. Miller
David Parker
John Watts
Solomon J. G. J. G.
L. L. Kleber
W. W. Amund
S. Stealy
J. F. Wayne
Foster Moore

Apr. 27, 1853

D C Wright
 Ara Williams
 Addison Williams
 John Forbet
 James A Kendall
 O R Brown
 M Hogle
 W Patterson
 Chas Sherman
 John Hagle
 John G Wagner
 David C Gail
 R Galiafer
 John W White
 B Scott
 A B Roff
 Henry C. Hook
 James White
 Hiram White
 W B White
 O Smith
 Dan Davis
 J. H. Hays
 Abraham Bender
 Giles C. Chapin
 George A. Combs
 Henry Root
 Daniel Hook
 Nathl Confort
 Thos G. Butler
 J. Asa Aldridge
 George King
 Th. Ferguson
 Jacob Biner
 C. H. G. Moore
 L. F. Eastburn

A. M. Mackintosh
 Amos Bonnell
 Geo Hays
 Leonard Phillips
 B. H. Measters
 J. M. Moore
 Thomas Wallace
 Thomas Kendall
 Wilson J. Key
 Dan Tuttle
 Franklin Stevens
 Joseph Thompson
 Lewis Huntington
 John Stecher Jr
 M. R. Hammond

A. C. Johnson
 Geo. Wainwright
 Stephen Lewis
 Robert Patterson
 John Williams
 David H. Starbuck
 John Byrnes
 John Johnson
 John Freeman
 David Day
 John Johnson
 T. B. Strubler
 A. H. Linnell
 Alfred Becket
 Edmund Baya
 Thomas Mose
 Mark Ayres
 Christian Scholt
 John James
 W. S. Lane
 Isaac Anderson
 A. Turner
 Christian H. G. Hallam
 Geo. Lockery
 James W. Smith
 B. H. Kenney
 George Gorman
 Wm. P. Rice
 John B. B. B. B.
 David Goss
 Henry Killmer
 William Vore

Washington City April 28th 1855

Hon Stephen A. Douglas

My Dear Sir,

Enclosed I send you two notes, which I wish you to endorse, and return to me. The largest to renew a note for \$250, on which I intend to pay \$25, and which falls due on the 7th of May ensuing; and the smallest to renew a note for \$60 on which I intend to pay \$10 - which falls due May the 19th. Please attend to it as soon as you receive this letter, as there will be but little time for the largest which falls due May 7th -

Col. Bissell has removed to Baltimore. I received a letter this morning, in which he says, he feels better by the change from Washington - Lieut. Beall gave Col. Marypenny a severe whipping, with fists, a few days ago - Every Body responds, Amen!

Will you please look at my lot No. 8, Block 3, next adjoining the old Lighthouse, and tell me what you think it is worth in money. Your friend
Richard de Courcy

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
Chicago

Box 1
Isaac Cook Esq

Illinois



J. M. Henry
Washington
&c

Dubuque Iowa May 6/55

My dear Sir

I am much pleased to learn from our noble friend Mr Corcoran that you & our friend Elisha Riggs intend to make a visit to this section of the country. Now I wish you & friend Riggs to understand that my latch string is always hanging out to such friends as you are & that if you will put up with my humble mansion and fare I will be much pleased to have you too as my guests during your stay here.

I want you & friend Riggs to make up your minds to meet
Some

✓

Chicago Ill

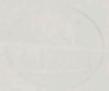
May 2^d 1855

Dear Judge,

Enclosed are two letters
in relation to the Rock Island
office. As I do not intend to
send them to Washington I submit
them to you. I have not referred
to them in my report.

I am yours,
W. B. Brown

How S. A. Douglas.



Dear Mother
I have just received your letter
and was glad to hear from you
and to hear that you were all
well.

I am well at present and hope
these few lines will find you
all the same. I have not much
news to write at present. I
am still in the same place
and doing the same work.

Yours affectionately
John Smith

John Smith

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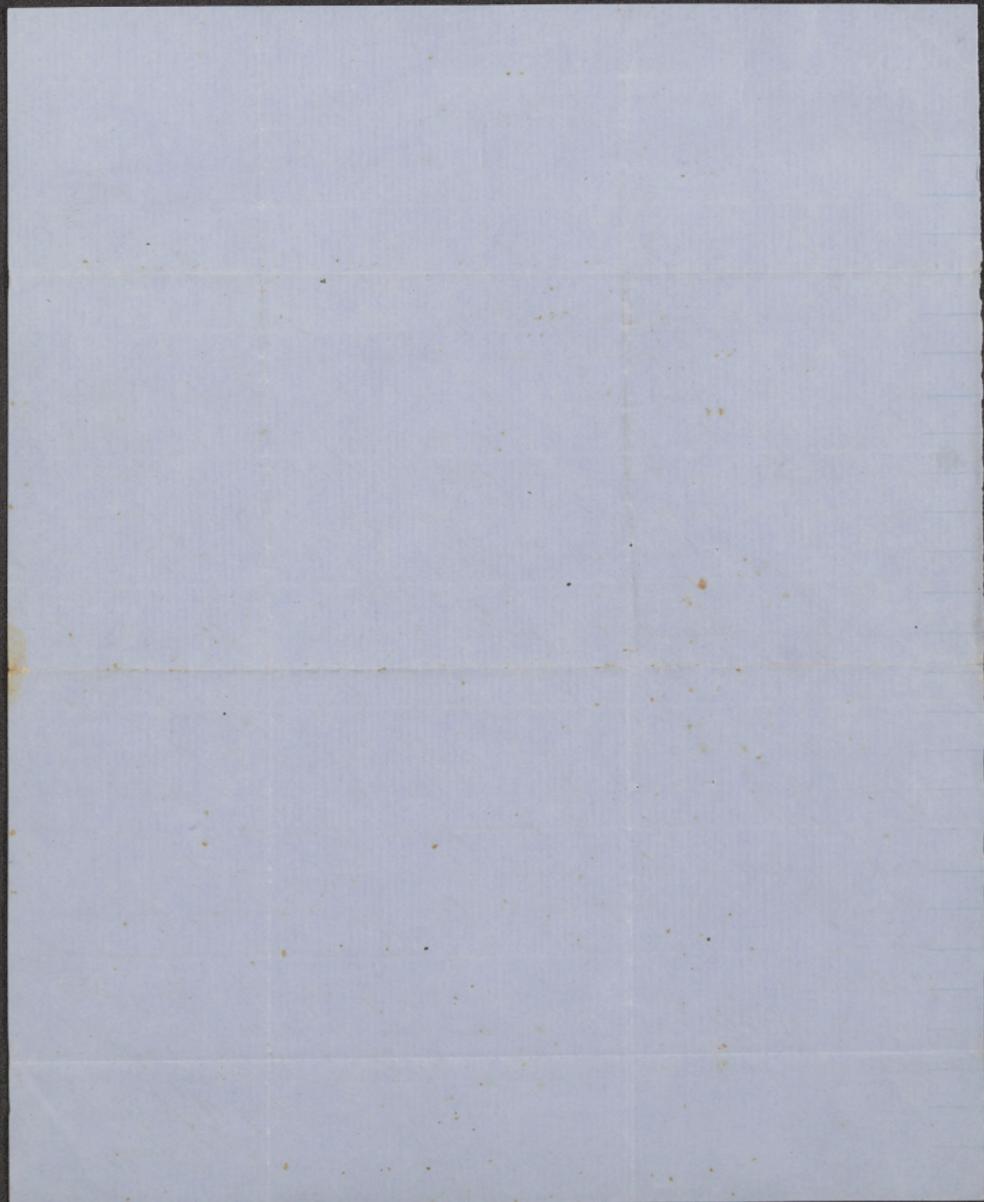
Rock Island May 4th 1855

Dear Sir,

I have learned with no little surprise that charges have been preferred against our present official Post Master James Kelly with a view to cause his removal from said office & that the object of your present visit to our city, is for the purpose of investigating these charges. I am not aware who has made the charges, Mr Kelly, nor can I say that, and aware, what are the charges, which have been preferred. It has however been intimated that one of the charges & perhaps the main one, is Mr Kelly's infidelity to the Democratic party generally & particularly towards our present Senator Wm S A Douglass. I am indeed surprised, if such a charge has been made, that any man either Democrat Whig or Unionist residing in this community who has known Mr Kelly & his political course, would venture to make the charge, for no man in this city or State has been more unwavering & devoted perhaps as little in his support of the Administration & its acts or in his support of Judge Douglass as James Kelly, not only during the past exciting political contest in our State, but during the whole period of his residence in Rock Island. Such a charge cannot be sustained by truth.

With regard to his competency & efficiency, I will say that he is both competent & efficient. I have now been a resident of Rock Island eight years and I can safely say, that during that time, the Post Office has been better or as well managed & conducted as it has been during Mr Kelly's administration.

Very Respectfully
D. W. Weston



Rock Island, May 7, 1855.

Hon. Wm. J. Brown:

Dear Sir:

I avail myself of your kind invitation to write to you, respecting the proposed removal of J. P. Kelly, the Postmaster of this city. There are several objections to it as a political measure which I wish to present distinctly.

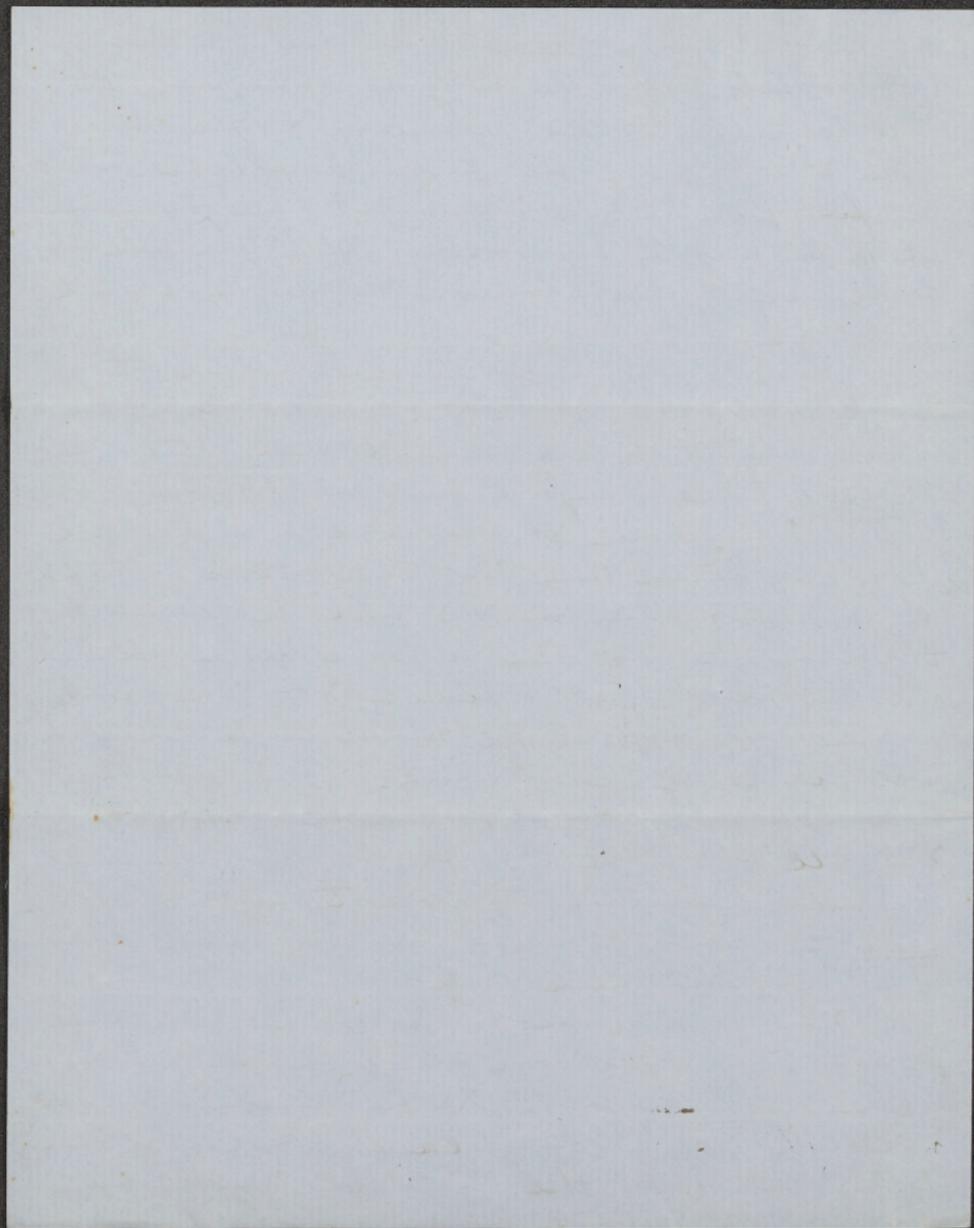
In the first place, are you aware that Danforth, Mr. Kelly's prime enemy, is generally esteemed a very better Catholic? Are you aware also that he has, concentrated the chief part of the Catholic influence here, against him? - These are both facts. In view of them, I do not hesitate to say, that the removal of Mr. Kelly would be heralded all over the land, as brought about, not by his dishonesty or incapacity, but by Catholic influence. We should have it circulated and used all over the land as another "bare boning down to the dark spirit of Popery", by the whole "midnight band of Know Nothing" bigots. It would afford them just what they want in this region - a plausible case. I have no hesitation in saying that in this view Mr. Kelly's removal would be a deep injury

to the party - a very great obstacle in the way
to success, in the use which would be made of
it, and in the prejudices which it would arouse.
- The removal of Mr. Kelly would create
also a very unpleasant impression throughout
this community - namely that Judge Douglas,
does not know his true friends and allows
them to be stricken down while he sees
their power given into the hands of treacherous
plotters, who "bow the supple knees of the knee"
to him, only "that thrift may follow farming."
During his residence in Illinois, Mr. Kelly
has been uniformly, - even in the darkest times
- true to the Democracy of the State and
its honored Chief. He has been so, often at the
sacrifice of personal interests and personal
friends. The men who seek his removal,
upon the contrary, never went for Judge Douglas
until his star was in the ascendant - till
till last August - long after Wentworth had
attained the "deepest deep" in treachery - they
went for him for Congress, as I can prove
from the files of the Republican edited by
Davenport. When I came to this District
last fall, I came, resolved, as an honest
man, to oppose Wentworth at all hazards;
and I was told daily and fully expected
that my chief opponent would be the
Republican. That it came over to the

support of Judge Douglas, was not for principle
but for self. If Mr. Kelly is removed, there
will be hereafter no inducement for true
men to stand up for Judge Douglas. It will
be felt that he knows not his ^{true} friends
while he hugs to his bosom, false friends who
will desert him whenever the storm cloud
lowers.

- There is another political objection to
Mr. Kelly's removal. It is well known here,
and admitted by all candid men, that the
fight between Davenport and his friends ^{and Mr. Kelly} is a
purely personal one. It originated in a personal
difficulty between them. That Davenport is actuated
by personal motives must I think be evident
to you from the fact that he has a man already
selected for Mr. Kelly's place - Wm. Drizzell;
a man whose appointment would be deplored by
all classes of community. If Davenport
succeeds in having Mr. Kelly removed and Mr.
Drizzell appointed it will be universally
considered here that the Department has been
used, to gratify the envy, malice, and jealousy
of a few individuals.

There is a charge made against Mr. Kelly
that he supports the "Rock Island," an anti-Douglas
anti-Schuyler paper. That the charge is perfectly
baseless can be very easily shown. Justice
within one week the proportion has been



4

made to me, by a intimate personal friend of Danpitts, and with his consent, that we should go into partnership and unite the "Rock Islander" and "Republican" together. If the "Rock Islander" is the paper he represents it to be, why did Danpitts make such a proposition. I need hardly say his offer was declined, not from any dissatisfaction with the "Republican" present position, but from a deep, and well founded distrust of the honesty, manliness, and real Democracy of Danpitts - a distrust which is shared by the whole community, save a corrupt, confederate few. I have only to say that I have never said one word against either Judge Douglas or the Administration on the Nebraska Bill; that I have always been their firm and fast friend; and I am the more free in expressing my friendship for them because I have ^{and probably never shall have} any political preferment to seek from Judge Douglas, or from any Administration. My whole error - if error it was - was in last fall too long striving to find some common platform upon which all true men might unite to fight together against our Abolition and Know Nothing foes. "My offending hath this extent & no more." It was my desire that the Democracy of Illinois should be not scattered and defeated but united and victorious.

And last fall, when Mr. Kelly thought that in my
denial for union I was too tolerant, he was
among the first then to politically oppose me,
while personally my friend -

I could retaliate much more, but shall
not weary your patience longer. It is my
especial request that you hand this letter to
Judge Douglas and let him read it.

Please accept my best wishes for your
success in the performance of your arduous duties
and believe me

Your friend

Emil J. Pershing

Editor "Rock Islander"

New York May 10th 1855.
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

My dear Indp.,

I cannot suffer this opportunity to pass by without wishing you health, prosperity, and success in all your national & private enterprises. I thank you for all the kind news I have seen in Chicago and hope to be on hand in 1860 if not in 1856. All that I ask in the mean time is that you should believe in my sincere attachment to you, of which I trust history will furnish the proofs.

I have bought a lot 40 by 165 in State Street Chicago & have authorized Messrs. Rees & Kerfoot to draw for the purchase money \$5800 cash or Bills of Exchange which draft has been duly protested, but has not yet come to hand. I should be obliged to you were you to give Messrs. Rees & Kerfoot a hint.

If the Illinois Central R.R. Company were to make me their agent in Germany & Switzerland, I feel assured, I could sell the whole no of axes during any stay abroad. I suggest the matter merely; the Company may act its own pleasure and find a better man.

I have been at the office of the Herald
and have put down the Chicago Times
on the Exchange list. Please commend
me to the editor - whom I consider a man
of great ability & talent.

With your permission, I shall
occasionally drop you a line from
Europ. Believe me, my dear Indg.

Your warm friend
Francis J. Grund

Care of Messrs Green & Co
Place St. George
Paris.

Handwritten notes in the right margin:
Handwritten initials and scribbles, possibly "Handwritten" and "to".

Mrs Greenlee
N.Y.

Com for Cash

Wagnsburg Greene Co. Penna

June the 11th 1855

Respected Sir. I am

a student of "Wagnsburg College" And
^{as we democrats} have to discuss the leading
^{political} questions of the day with the isms, in general
You know that documents would be very
usefull to us, I therefore address you, And
hope you will send me such documents as you
think would be usefull to the democratic portion
of students, in such discussions. I regret that
you are not at present a candidate for the
presidency. But console myself with the
pleasing hope, that you will be in future
And in that event I think western Penna.
will shout the nation that she is in favor
of the "Kansas Nebraska Act". your unknown
^{of the} friends
Hon: Stephen A Douglas Samuel A Montgomery

Paula Montgomery
Waynesburg Penn

Wm D. D. D.

Sent June 19 1856

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Macon Georgia June 24th 1855

Mr. Stephen A. Douglass, Sir I take
the liberty of advising a few lines to you,
after the reading of which I hope you will
deem me sufficient to Plead an apology for so
doing. &c from a letter addressed to my Brother
- in Law here by Mr. Strickland your Present
overseer in Wipejaha I Learn that he does
not intend staying on that Plantation an
other year - that you may be the better acquainted
with me I carried them hands from Georgia
and settled that Plantation for Robert Martin
he was my wifes uncle and previous to his death
he wished me and my wife to return back there
Should you contemplate getting an other Person
to superintend your buisness out there I would
like to make an agreement with you as
I am familiarly acquainted in that section
and as for my Buisness qualifications, I can
give you the names of such men here in
Georgia that you are acquainted with or their
standing as to leave no doubt on your mind
as to my competency and I can do the same
in Lawrence Co Miss. &c. Please to answer
this and if further correspondence should
be necessary I would like to open it with
you" Yours with Respect
Heroddy Morris

Hardy Morris

Maccon Quay

Department of the Interior,
Washington, June 29th 1855.

Sir,

From a recent examination into the condition of the Land Office at Danville, Ills: it appears to be expedient, if not absolutely necessary, to remove the present Register of that Office.

It has been suggested to this Department that John W. Drake, of Vermillion County, Ills: would be a suitable person to fill the vacancy that may thus be created, and, as I desire to consult your wishes in the matter, I should be pleased to hear from you on the subject.

Should D. Davis, the present incumbent, or his friends, prefer that an opportunity may be afforded him to resign, the Department would be satisfied to receive his resignation.

I am Sir, very respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant,

B. McKelband
Secretary.

Mr. S. A. Douglass
Chicago,
Illinois.



40

Confidential San Francisco
 June 30th 1855

S. A. Douglas,
 U. S. Senate

Dear Sir

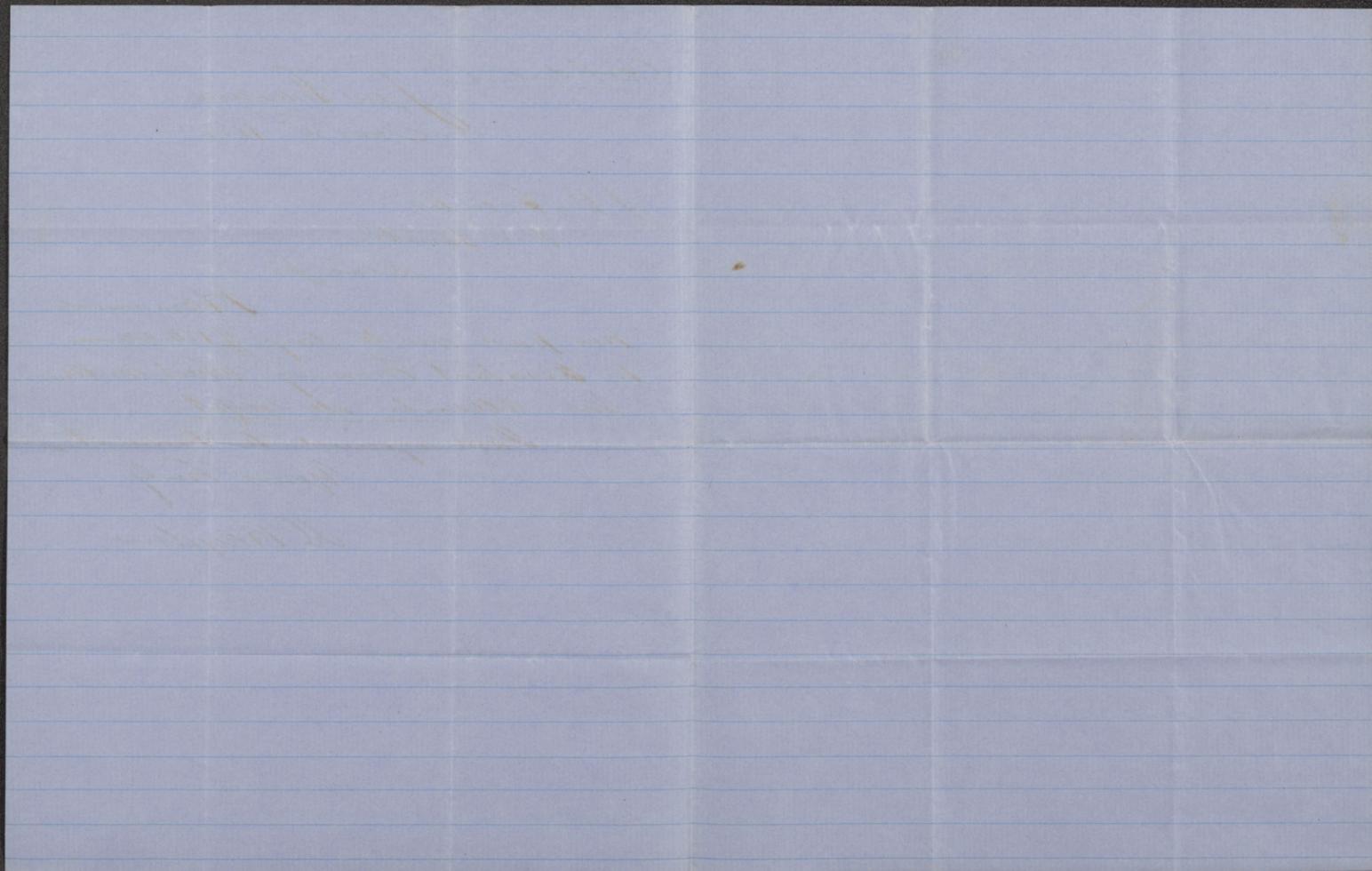
Hammond
 has paid over to day \$180,000—
 To Assistant Treasury which makes
 his accounts all right
 I am rejoiced to know it—

Yours Truly

A. Haydon

L. Hag den
Lein Francisco
hal

1855



Chicago July 7th 1855Hon^{le} Judge Douglas
Sir

The subject of the Swamp lands in Traquon is, at this moment, of intense interest to the inhabitants. The commissioner of the land office has adopted a rule utterly at variance with their just rights and equally opposed to the main object of ~~the~~ Congress in granting these lands to the State. - The County of Traquon has proceeded in entire good faith in selecting the lands, within its limits - the neighbouring Counties have been unscrupulous and consequently the whole Land District has been exposed to the operations of Speculators - Any one who can procure the evidence of two persons, who pass their opinion of any tract of land, that it is not Swamp land, ~~is~~ allowed to enter the tract in question, unless the testimony is rebutted by the County, before the Register and Receiver, who are decidedly interested parties - The result ~~must~~ ~~have~~ be the loss of the greater portion of these lands to the County - involving most ruinous expenses in defending them - I would suggest in addition to the statement I previously took the liberty of troubling you with - That if the New Commissioner could be induced to adopt the only rule, consistent with the spirit of the law, in determining

what are, or are not, swamp lands. The whole difficulty
might be settled equitably and truly - "In a forty
acre tract, if water stands upon it to the ^{average} depth of
two inches, and over more than half the tract as
late as the 10th of April, it should be considered as
swamp land and requiring drainage" - At present
the most absurd decisions will be made upon the
judgement and testimony of interested parties -
The rule I propose, cannot be acted on, till next
spring, but the County could, in the mean time
be rendered safe, by testing it with the level -
Is it practicable, do you think, to impress the
Commissioner and Secretary of the interior with
the propriety of changing the present course of
proceeding - A large majority of the people of Oregon
feel, that the prosperity of that District of Country
depends upon the issue - Your services and
influence, if duly exercised in this matter
would be thankfully received and appreciated
Respectfully yours
Rich^d P. Morgan.

R. P. Morgan
Chicago
Land & C

Worcester Co. Mass. July 1853
Messrs Editors of Gazette.

Permit me to offer you a few thoughts. I look upon the late Compromise as a splendid light house reared upon the Commercial intercourse we had with foreign nations, seated under the Stars and Stripes, of our happy Republic.

I look upon the Baltimore Platform as a well cemented edifice, studded with flowers and perfumes, upon which the Southern and Northern interests can sit to govern, and legislate for the prosperity and defence of our Government. I look upon the States Rights party, as being an honorable body of politicians, but being inflated with ambition, but agitating their pretensions too long, but when the people spoke out their sentiment at the September Election they humbly and patriotically bowed to the Sovereign voice of the State. They each party organized again upon national issues, with a few exceptions. The States Rights Democrats assembled in Convention and invited the Union Democrats to participate with them in sending delegates to the Baltimore Democratic Convention. I look upon them, then, as being equal, if not foremost in forming that platform. They participated in the nomination of Pierce and King, and afterwards returned home and fought valiantly in their support. As a token of their patriotism, Jeff Davis was awarded a seat in the Cabinet.

I wish now to give you some few ideas of general Fools. He has a penetrating eye, fine recollection

lively, imaginary, and deception in his power of
mind, the highest order of wit and an abundance
ridiculous, I now politely invite Gen. Faneuil to withhold
these powers, and not disturb the political government
of the State, I look upon these powers as the vehicle
in which the great men of our nation rode to
glory in forming the Compromise, I helped to
adorn that vehicle, we enshrouded it with velvet
harmless it with silver, fringed it with gold
and bordered it with law, I now look upon him as an
unmasked agitator and a political Demagogue
Chemically, he puts me in mind of a frog in a
glass house, inflated with ambition, and a desire
of personal and political glory, breathing the air
of self-importance derived from the popularity of the
Compromise measures, and now let the whole Union
withdraw from him their support and
exclude this atmosphere from his house, and thus
let him burst, and so save the peace and honor
of our State,

He makes me think, in some respects, of a Broome
preacher, with his well selected sermons, daring
attitude and ranting positions, My humble opi-
nion is that he is trying to excite the gentle and work-
ing part of the Democratic party.

My sincere desire is to be a friend to my State
and Country and institutions of our day
Amew;

A. Myers Democrat

I consider that after this

To Judge Douglas



Turin, 4th August 1855.

My dear Sir,

Permit me to recommend to your acquaintance and good offices, my friend the Chevalier Bestinatti, Chargé d'Affaires of His Majesty the King of Sardinia in Washington. M. Bestinatti has been for a long time an able and trusted agent of Sardinian Diplomacy, and you will find him a most kind and agreeable gentleman. Any politeness you may show to him will be most highly appreciated by

Your friend

J. M. Daniel

Wm S. A. Douglas

Letter of introduction
from J. M. Daniell

Turin

Rec. Dec 1855

W

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, written vertically in the center fold of the paper.